

Appl. No. 10/635,352  
Art Unit: 3635  
Docket No. 0156-P02890US01

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following list, which is submitted to replace all prior listings of claims.

1. (Withdrawn) A post structure, comprising:

a base having a socket with an opening disposed in a wall of the socket;

a column having an end configured for insertion into the socket and an aperture configured to align with the opening in the socket;

a latch disposed in the end of the column; and

a biasing element configured to displace the latch through the aperture and into engagement with the column in the socket to secure the column in the socket.

2-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) A frame apparatus comprising a plurality of interlocking identically configured pieces, each piece having a first extension and a second extension extending perpendicularly from the first extension, the first extension of each piece having an internal channel adapted to receive the second extension of another piece in a telescoping connection, said internal

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channel in the first extension having a plurality of ratchet teeth configured to mate with a plurality of ratchet teeth on the second extension, wherein said ratchet teeth in the first and second extensions are configured to slidably engage to allow the second extension to slide relative to the first extension into the channel, and further configured to lockingly engage to substantially prevent reverse sliding of the second extension relative to the first extension, such that the second extension is locked in engagement with the first extension.

11. (Original) A frame apparatus comprising a plurality of interlocking identically configured pieces, each piece having a first extension and a second extension extending perpendicularly from the first extension, the first extension of each piece having an internal channel adapted to receive the second extension of another piece in a telescoping connection, said first extension of each piece further comprising one or more breakable joints that are configured to be broken apart to change the length of the first section to a desired length.
12. (Original) The frame apparatus of claim 11, comprising an indicia adjacent to each breakable joint, said indicia being indicative of a finished dimension when the adjacent breakable joint is broken.
- 13-15. (Cancelled)

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16. (New) The frame apparatus of claim 11 comprising a tubular shell extending transversely from the trim pieces, said shell having an end forming an outer perimeter, said trim pieces interlocking around said perimeter over the end of said shell.
17. (New) A trim frame comprising:
  - A. a first trim piece having a long side and a short side, said short side of said first trim piece comprising an internal channel having a coupling inside the channel; and
  - B. a second trim piece having a long side and a short side, said long side of said second trim piece extending into the internal channel in the first trim piece in a telescoping relationship, said long side of said second trim piece comprising a coupling slidably engaging the coupling in the short side of said first trim piece.
18. (New) The trim frame of Claim 17 wherein the first and second trim pieces form a continuous rectangular trim frame.
19. (New) The trim frame of Claim 17 wherein the short side of said second trim piece comprises an internal channel and a coupling inside the internal channel of the second trim piece.
20. (New) The trim frame of Claim 19 comprising a third trim piece having a

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long side and a short side, said long side of the third trim piece extending into the internal channel in said second trim piece in a telescoping relationship, said long side of the third trim piece comprising a coupling slidably engaging the coupling in the short side of the second trim piece.

21. (New) The trim frame of Claim 20 wherein the short side of said third trim piece comprises an internal channel and a coupling inside the internal channel of the third trim piece.
22. (New) The trim frame of Claim 21 comprising a fourth trim piece having a long side and a short side, said long side of the fourth trim piece extending into the internal channel in said third trim piece in a telescoping relationship, said long side of the fourth trim piece comprising a coupling slidably engaging the coupling in the short side of the third trim piece.
23. (New) The trim frame of Claim 22 wherein the short side of said fourth trim piece comprises an internal channel and a coupling extending inside the internal channel of the fourth trim piece.
24. (New) The trim frame of Claim 23 wherein the long side of said first trim piece extends into the internal channel in said fourth trim piece in a telescoping relationship, said long side of said first trim piece comprising a coupling slidably engaging the coupling in the short side of the fourth trim piece.

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25. (New) The trim frame of Claim 17 wherein the couplings comprise one or more ratchet teeth.
26. (New) The trim frame of Claim 17 comprising one or more scored sections on each of said first and second trim pieces.
27. (New) A frame apparatus comprising a plurality of interlocking adjacent L-shaped pieces, each L-shaped piece having a short side and a long side extending perpendicularly from the short side, the short side of each L-shaped piece having an internal channel, the long side of each L-shaped piece extending into the internal channel of an adjacent L-shaped piece in a telescoping connection, each long side having a first coupling, and each internal channel in each short side having a second coupling that slidably engages one of said first couplings, wherein said first and second couplings are connected in locking engagement.
28. (New) The frame apparatus of Claim 27 comprising one or more scored sections on each of said L-shaped pieces.